MAYOR IVY STARTS HERE!

POISON IVY

42 13+ TEEN

WILSON
TAKARA
PRIANTO

ALL IN

WRITTEN BY EISNER AWARD WINNER GREG RUCKA • ART BY DaNi

NEXT LEVEL

MARCH

BATWOMAN #1

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DAUGHTER. SISTER. SOLDIER. HERO.

Power.

Why does it feel so **different** from this angle?

MA'AM?

So certain. So protected.

COMMISSIONER SAVAGE IS HERE FOR YOUR TEN O'CLOCK MEETING.

So...

...legal.

YOU'RE *LATE*, SAVAGE.

FROM NOW ON, I EXPECT YOU TO SHOW UP FOR OUR MEETINGS AS *SCHEDULED*.

Like **nothing** can ever hurt me again.

MAYBE YOU THINK I'LL BEND TO YOUR WILL LIKE THE ***PREVIOUS*** GUY. MAYBE YOU THINK YOU CAN WALK ***ALL*** OVER ME.

BUT I INTEND TO USE THE ***FULL*** POWERS OF THIS OFFICE.

AND I EXPECT YOUR TOTAL **COOPERATION.**

PAMELA ISLEY
MAYOR

Because now... I rule the city of **Gotham** *from behind this enormous* **desk.**

I MEANT NO *DISRESPECT*, MADAM MAYOR.

BULL.

STAND UP STRAIGHT. TAKE YOUR *HANDS* OUT OF YOUR POCKETS.

ITEM ONE-- I WANT ALL YOUR OVERSTUFFED, OVER-PAID, TRIGGER-HAPPY GOONS OFF THE STREETS.

THE *MISTAKE* WAS LETTING YOU RUN RAMPANT IN THE *FIRST* PLACE.

THAT WOULD BE A *MISTAKE.*

WHAT I HAVE DONE, I HAVE DONE FOR THIS *CITY.*

I MAKE *NO* APOLOGIES FOR--

--WAIT, WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN CRYING?

NO REASON.

Allergies.

SOMEONE WHO CAN CONTROL *ALL* PLANT LIFE HAS ALLERG--

WE'RE NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT *ME*. WE'RE HERE TO TALK ABOUT *YOU*.

SCALE BACK THE GCPD. STAND DOWN YOUR *TUCO ARMY*.

I WILL STAND THEM DOWN IF YOU TAKE YOUR *ECO-CULT* OFF THE STREETS.

THE SAFETY AND FREEDOM OF THE *ORDER OF THE GREEN KNIGHT* ARE NONNEGOTIABLE.

ARE YOU *TRYING* TO START A *CIVIL WAR?*

NO. I'M TRYING TO *END* ONE.

AND IF YOU DON'T FALL IN LINE, I WILL LET THIS CITY *EAT* YOU ALIVE.

I HAVE *ANOTHER* IDEA.

LET ME *HELP* YOU. LET US HELP *EACH OTHER.*

OR THIS CITY WILL EAT *YOU.*

LATER THAT DAY.

I decided to **ignore** Savage's threats.

After all, **he** wasn't the one who just swept the mayoral election with **seventy percent** of the vote.

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO IMPLEMENT YOUR AMBITIOUS ***CLIMATE GOALS***, MAYOR ISLEY?

WHAT ABOUT THE RUMORS THAT YOU'VE ***REDECORATED*** THE MAYOR'S OFFICE?

IT'LL TAKE TIME AND ***DETERMINATION***, BUT GOTHAM ***WILL*** BE THE GREENEST CITY ON THE PLANET.

WE'RE GOING TO START WITH BASIC ***INFRASTRUCTURE***, THEN MOVE ON TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT-- GET PEOPLE TO CHANGE SOME OF THEIR ***BAD HABITS***.

SOUNDS VERY UTOPIAN.

I COULD ***USE*** A LITTLE UTOPIANISM RIGHT NOW. COULDN'T ***YOU***?

STUPID HIPPIE! GO BACK TO SEATTLE!

YOU IN THE ***HAT***! STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

PUT YOUR HANDS UP!

When I hear the **Gotham police** shouting orders--

--I usually get ready to **run.**

I'm not used to them protecting **me.**

I'm not sure I **want** to get used to it, either.

IV--
I MEAN MS.--
I MEAN *MAYOR ISLEY*--

--YOU'VE GOT A BUDGET MEETING IN TEN MINUTES.

GOOD. I LOOK FORWARD TO CUTTING SAVAGE'S BUDGET IN *HALF.*

I THINK YOU SHOULD GROW *HOUSEPLANTS* OUT OF HIS *EYEBALLS.*

ONE STEP AT A TIME, JANET. ONE STEP AT A TIME.

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.

I KNOW IT WAS A *ROUGH* RACE, BUT I PROMISE YOU I ONLY HAVE GOTHAM'S *BEST* INTERESTS AT HEART.

WITH THAT IN MIND, I'D LIKE TO MAKE A FEW *POLITICAL* APPOINTMENTS.

WARREN WHITE WILL BE OVERSEEING INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT.

DAMN RIGHT.

PETER LINDINE IS OUR NEW *GREEN CONSTRUCTION* CZAR.

=Ahem=

JANET HERE WILL BE IN CHARGE OF *PEOPLE AND CULTURE.*

WHICH IS CODE FOR *HUMAN RESOURCES!*

AND *JUHI PRAKASH* WILL REMAIN IN HER POST AS... AS...

...WHAT IS IT YOU DO AGAIN?

I'M AN *INTER-DEPARTMENTAL LIAISON.*

WITH THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.

...right.

Well, WE'VE GOT TO KEEP A FEW *EXPERIENCED* EMPLOYEES AROUND TO MAKE SURE THE PLACE RUNS *SMOOTHLY.*

I BELIEVE IN USING *ALL* THE TALENTS OF THIS GREAT CITY... INCLUDING THOSE THAT SMALL-MINDED CITIZENS HAVE PREVIOUSLY *LOCKED UP* AND HIDDEN AWAY.

I'M SURE WE'LL ALL GET ALONG *SWIMMINGLY.*

ANY QUESTIONS?

EXCUSE ME?! YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
THERE'S A *PROCESS* FOR CONFIRMING EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS.
WE HAVE LAWS!
YOU *HAD* LAWS. THEN YOU LET A BUNCH OF PETTY *TYRANTS* WALK ALL OVER THEM.
THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET THINGS *DONE* NOW. YOU DON'T GET DEMOCRACY BACK BY *WISHING*.
IF *IDEAS* COULD PROTECT US, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO *BE* HERE.
THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.
YOU'RE *DISMISSED*.
Wait-- WHAT'S *THAT* IN THE CORNER?

Huh?

I must be getting sloppy.

IT'S NOTHING. *IGNORE* IT.

WELL, *THAT* DIDN'T GO SO WELL.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY HARDER TO GET THEM TO *LIKE* YOU. WE'RE GONNA *NEED* THEM.

WE *DON'T* NEED THEM, JANET.

THE MAYORS OF GOTHAM HAVE BEEN *IGNORING* THE CITY COUNCIL FOR A *HUNDRED YEARS.*

RIGHT. EVERYBODY CLEAR ON WHAT THEY NEED TO DO?

BURROW *SO* DEEP INTO THE GOTHAM POLITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE THAT THEY CAN'T GET *RID* OF US.

THAT'S RIGHT, SHARKY. WELL DONE.

THIS IS GONNA BE FUN.

KRK

...I DON'T LIKE THE *NEW* GUY.

YEAH, *well,* SHE MET HIM IN *JAIL.* So. NOW HE'S *OUR* PROBLEM.

FIRST THE *ORDER,* NOW *GOTHAM* ITSELF... ALL THIS *POWER* IS GOING TO HER HEAD.

SOMETIMES I THINK BEING *HUNTED* BY THE GCPD DROVE HER *MAD.*

BUT IT'S AS IF SHE'S LEARNED NOTHING FROM IT.

THERE WAS SOMETHING *JUHI* SAID THAT--

Wait-- WHERE *IS* JUHI?

MEANWHILE.

IT'S A BRAND-NEW DAY, BOYS.

DID YOU *EVER* THINK WE'D BE ABLE TO WALK DOWN THE STREETS OF GOTHAM IN BROAD DAYLIGHT?

...ehh?

TOSS

HEY!

PICK THAT UP!

IT'S JUST ONE CAN, BRO--

ONE CAN?

EVERYBODY THOUGHT IT'S JUST "ONE CAN"-- AND THAT'S HOW THE *EARTH* TURNED INTO A FLOATING *GARBAGE DUMP.*

PICK IT UP. *NOW.*

OKAY, **OKAY.** Jeez.

IT AIN'T LOOKING **GOOD,** BOSS.

THE MAYOR'S RIDING HIGH ON A WAVE OF VERY **WEIRD** POPULARITY.

UNSEATING HER THROUGH THE COURTS WOULD BE **TOUGH.**

AND THE **PLANTS.** THE PLANTS **LOVE** HER. THE DECORATIVE FERNS IN THE ENTRYWAY **SQUEAL** WHEN SHE WALKS PAST. **YOU** CAN'T HEAR IT, BUT I CAN. IT'S **FREAKY.**

THIS IS GOING TO END **BADLY.**

YOU CAN'T GET **RID** OF TYRANNY WITH MORE TYRANNY. I HOPED WE COULD AVOID VIOLENCE, BUT WE PASSED ALL THE OFF-RAMPS TO **PEACE** A LONG TIME AGO IN THIS CITY--

BANG

WHAT WAS *THAT?!*

THAT WAS THE *ARCANE PERIMETER* I SET UP AROUND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE. IT'S BEEN *BREACHED.*

BY *WHAT?!*

SOME-THING *BIG.*

WE'LL BE CAUGHT. WE'LL BE *COOKED!*

DON'T WORRY. NOBODY HEARD THAT EXCEPT *US.*

STAY HERE. I'M GOING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

BUT THEN YOU'LL *DEFINITELY* BE COOKED!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME...

...I AM *NOT* LOSING MEDICAL-DENTAL FOR THIS WOMAN.

I knew **Xylon** would turn up sooner or later.

Listen-- I CAN **EXPLAIN.**

I just didn't expect it to turn up **here.**

you. consumed. bog venus.

Well, **JANET** DID MOST OF THE CONSUMING. I DID A LOT OF ***SAUTÉING.****

do not. jest. with me. young sporeling. this is no. laughing. matter.

*Back in ***POISON IVY*** #38 & #39! --Alimentary Arianna

we. asked you. to be an ambassador. but this. was not diplomacy.

this. was an escalation.

SHE TRIED TO *KILL* ONE OF MY CLOSEST FRIENDS!

you mean. your lover.

MY--MY--MY COMPANION.

what. will you do now? the parliament. of trees. will not let this pass. unanswered.

I'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT. I *ALWAYS* DO.

you speak not. solely. for yourself now. your actions.

reflect. upon the green. and the grey.

and the green. will want. war. we must--

BOOM

STEP AWAY FROM THE MAYOR!

Or I'll-- I'LL DO THAT AGAIN!

hurr. hurr. hurr.

hurr. hurr.

i will. be watching. young sporeling. your task is great. but i see. you have. help.

What was *that?*

That was *Xylon.*

Isn't that the name of an *antidepressant?*

No. It's the name of a billion-year-old avatar of the kingdom of *fungi.*

HOW DID YOU-- *DO* THAT?

DO WHAT?

THAT *PINK* THING.

Oh. YOU MEAN *MAGIC.*

I HAD A REALLY GOOD *TEACHER.*

SHE'S TRAPPED IN A *NIGHTMARE* AT THE MOMENT. BUT SHE WAS ONE OF THE *BEST.*

I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T *LIKE* ME.

I *DON'T* LIKE YOU.

BUT YOU'RE THE *MAYOR.* AND SOMEONE HAS TO *PROTECT* THE MAYOR FROM ARCANE THREATS, NO MATTER *WHO* SITS IN THE CHAIR.

... I'M NOT SURE I *BELIEVE* IN MAGIC.

THAT'S FUNNY. *I'M* NOT SURE I BELIEVE YOU WERE *LEGITIMATELY ELECTED.*

BEEP BEEP

SORRY. I HAVE TO TAKE THIS CALL.

TRY NOT TO GET ATTACKED BY ANY *GIANT FUNGI* WHILE I'M GONE.

BEEP BEEP

BEEP

Juhi.

Janet.

ARE YOU OKAY? I HEARD RAISED VOICES.

YEAH. YEAH, I'M OKAY.

I JUST GOT A VISIT FROM *XYLON.*

AND *JUHI* SAW?! THAT UPTIGHT LAW-AND-ORDER NERD?

IT TURNS OUT JUHI HAS... MORE GOING ON THAN WE *THOUGHT.*

Well, FUNGI ASIDE, I DO HAVE SOME **GOOD** NEWS.

I JUST GOT YOUR FIRST-WEEK ***POLLING*** NUMBERS BACK. THEY'RE INCREDIBLE. 92 PERCENT POSITIVE.

GOOD. EXCELLENT.

BUT--

--THAT'S BECAUSE THEY EXPECT YOU TO IMPROVE ***ROADS AND BRIDGES***, INCREASE ***AFFORDABLE HOUSING***, IMPROVE ***HEALTH*** OUTCOMES, AND MAKE GOTHAM ***COMPLETELY CARBON NEUTRAL*** IN ***TWO YEARS***.

Just like you promised in the ***campaign***.

...what have I *done?*

TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG. EVERYTHING'S GONE SO ***WELL***, YOU HAVE EVERYTHING YOU ***WANTED***, BUT--

--I CAN TELL YOU'VE BEEN ***CRYING***.

Please-- I WANT TO HELP--

I CAN'T. I CAN'T TALK ABOUT IT.

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN? DID SOMEBODY HURT YOU?

NO, I--

--I HURT SOMEONE ELSE.

WHO?

It's still raw.

Too painful to think about.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT ALL THIS HAS COST ME...

...IT COST ME *HARLEY.*

DC COMICS PRESENTS:

POISON IVY

CHAPTER FORTY-TWO.

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MARCIO TAKARA
Colors
ARIF PRIANTO
Letters
HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU
JESSICA FONG *Cover*

Variant covers
NOOBOVICH
KYUYONG EOM
MANNY CARBONILLA

Women's History Month variant
LEIRIX

Corner Box variant
JORGE JIMÉNEZ

JESSICA BERBEY *Associate editor*
Editor ARIANNA TURTURRO
Group editor ROB LEVIN

NEXT: WE BUILT THIS CITY

YOU LOOK MUCH BETTER TODAY.

HOPEFULLY THE *PAIN* HAS PASSED?

It will *never* pass.

THEN WE MUST LEARN HOW TO *MANAGE* IT. LEARN HOW TO KEEP IT FROM *CONSUMING* YOU.

I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU WITH THAT.

YOU THINK IT'S A *CHOICE.*

IT *ISN'T.* WE *NEVER* HAD A CHOICE.

Never.

TELL ME ABOUT THE LAST TIME YOU SAW YOUR SISTER.

KAW!

KAW!

BATWOMAN

#1 PREVIEW

WRITER GREG RUCKA
ARTIST DANI
COLORS MATT HOLLINGSWORTH
LETTERS HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU

"I didn't know I was to have a party at all...

"...but if there is to be one, I think I ought to invite the guests."

BETH-- DON'T, DON'T DO IT--

"How am I to stop it?"

--YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS...

...please...

...Beth, it's me...

...it's Kate.

"...and the twice-named shall perish, and the age of Darkseid will come..."

...it is written, it will be...

...Alice and Batwoman...

...Beth and Kate...

...HOW DO WE FIGHT THE *DEVIL* WHEN THE DEVIL IS *REAL?*

WITH *EVERY-THING.*

TO BE CONTINUED IN
BATWOMAN #1
ON SALE IN MARCH!

DC NEXT LEVEL

ALL IN

ABSOLUTE SUPERMAN

COLLECTED EDITION AVAILABLE IN MARCH

VOL. 2: SON OF THE DEMON

THE MAN OF STEEL FACES THE DEMON WITHIN.

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Written by **JASON AARON**

Art by **RAFA SANDOVAL and CARMINE DI GIANDOMENICO**

Cover art by **RAFA SANDOVAL**

THE MATRIARCH

INTERVIEW WITH TOM KING

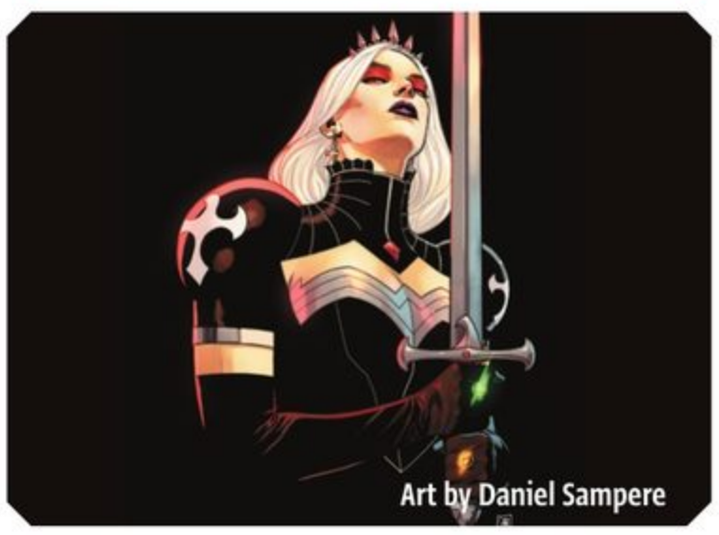
The Matriarch has arrived in the pages of *Wonder Woman*, and she's here to change everything. Superstar writer Tom King reveals Diana's most ambitious villain yet, a royal force of nature with power to topple gods and heroes alike. As "The Wonder War" begins, this future-born conqueror promises an epic showdown that will redefine the Amazing Amazon's legacy.

What can you tell us about the creation of the Matriarch?

From the beginning my brilliant artist, Daniel Sampere, and I wanted to create a huge *Wonder Woman* villain that would be the focus of our arc. We very cleverly put her origin story on the very first page of the series, and nobody noticed, which was fun! We took 25 issues of story leading up to the launch of this character who is the pivotal villain of the whole series, and her name is the Matriarch.

Can you share a bit about the character's design?

Daniel's design is perfect. I wanted her to look like an evil princess, or to have that sort of royalty to her. This look of "I've inherited the world and I can do anything."



Art by Daniel Sampere

How do you craft a villain worthy of Wonder Woman's legacy?

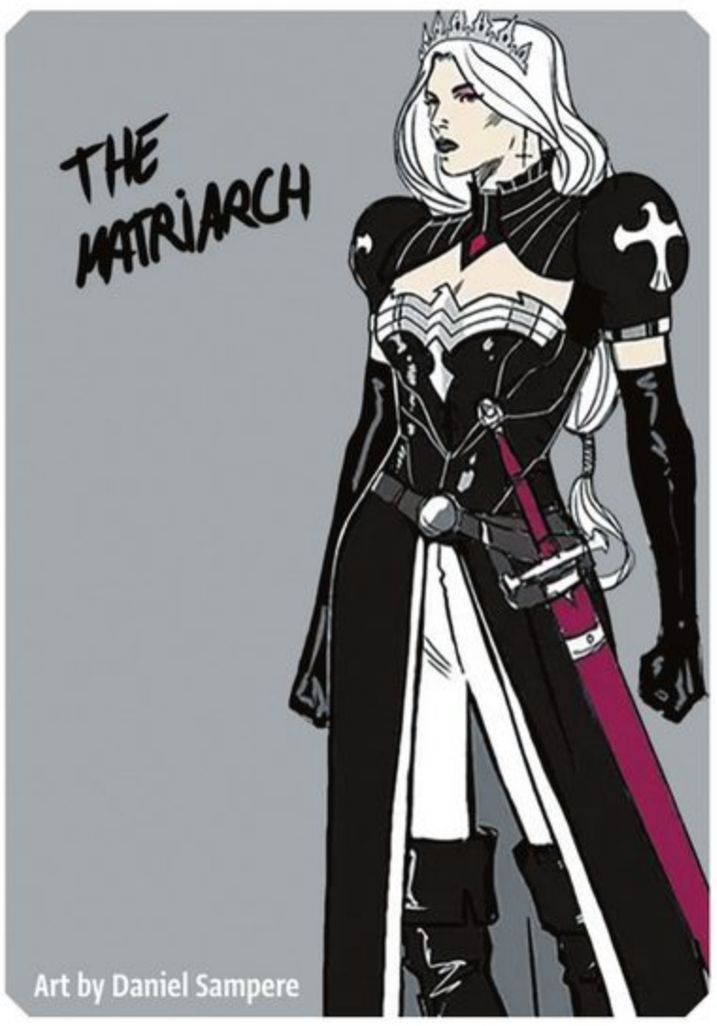
It's my chance to do a Lex Luthor. My chance to do a Joker. That's who the Matriarch is. People who are reading *Wonder Woman* today need an experience as big as the people who were reading *Batman* in the '30s or '40s. They deserve huge comics that aren't just looking backward, but looking forward.

Art by Jorge Fornés

What you started to see in issue #25, the big launch of this character, is she exists in the future. I was sort of inspired by the comics of my youth, where the great villains came from the future. In the future, she has left Themyscira, has conquered Earth, and has killed the Justice League. When you see each of their deaths, their last words to the Matriarch before they succumb to her total power are "Wonder Woman," who's the last hope against this villain.

What can fans expect as we head toward "The Wonder War"?

There's a lot more to come. We've been building on this. We created this character called the Sovereign, who may or may not be her father. You see her birth and the birth of Trinity around the same time. These two babies who start together becoming the greatest of adversaries in the future will be the driving force behind the comic. I couldn't be more excited for where this is going.



Art by Daniel Sampere

DON'T MISS THE EPIC START OF "THE WONDER WAR" IN *WONDER WOMAN* #31, ON SALE IN MARCH!

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